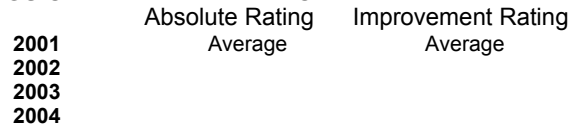


ABSOLUTE RATING: Average
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Average

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 92.

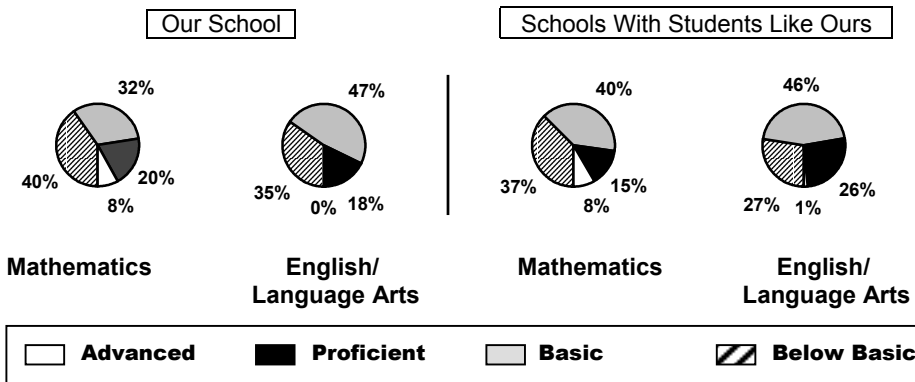
The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from below average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=112)	65.2	59.8	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=12)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=100)	71	65		
Gender				
Male (n=63)	61.9	58.7		
Female (n=49)	69.4	61.2		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=46)	71.7	71.7		
Hispanic (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=66)	60.6	51.5		
Other (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=66)	59.1	56.1		
Pay for lunch (n=46)	73.9	65.2		

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Dollars spent per student	\$5,109	N/A	\$5,446	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	92.6%	Up from 87.8%	90.2%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	15.7 to 1	N/A	18.5 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=250)				
• Attendance Rate	96.3%	Up from 96.1%	96.1%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	0%	N/A	5.2%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	0%	N/A	3.4%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	100%	No change	96.9%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	1%	Up from 0.8%	4.2%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=19)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	8.9 Days	Up from 7.1	7.4 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	97.2%	Up from 92.8%	95.1%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	42.1%	Down from 45.5%	45%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	78.9%	Up from 77.3%	83.8%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	0%	No change	0%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	92%	Down from 93.9%	87.3%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$37,611	Up 1.1%	\$36,883	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	63.8%	N/A	65.5%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	3	N/A	3	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	95.9%	N/A	95.8%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	62.9%	Up from 50%	49.7%	43.1%
• On academic probation	0%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	N/A	N/A	1.5%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	0	N/A	1	1
• Gifted and talented	11.4%	Up from 9.3%	9.5%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	5.1%	Down from 5.2%	8.8%	8.4%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

The 2000-2001 school year was full of exciting challenges and many successes. Our main focus this year was to provide a balanced literacy program, integrate across the curriculum, promote a sound mathematical program, analyze student test data, align curriculum and instruction to the state standards, and recognize student accomplishments.

Our students performed well in the areas of academics, character education and the arts. As part of our school-wide character education program, all students participated in a variety of service projects. Several projects included: "Coins Counts" (collecting coins for local charities), Jump Rope For Heart, canned food drive, and The March of Dimes. Our students participated in several musicals and had numerous pieces of artwork displayed.

The Media Center is the focal point of our school. We added many new books and well exceeded our school Accelerated Reader Goal. Students worked extremely hard to improve their independent reading levels. The computer lab is very valuable to our students and parents. "Computer Tuesday" was a popular part of our parenting program. The four Parenting Nights were highly successful and well attended. Porschia Dover was the District Spelling Bee Winner and Tyrell Haney won the DARE essay contest at our school.

Our teachers worked very hard this year, too. Teachers participated in numerous professional development activities in order to promote balanced literacy and curriculum alignment. Nine teachers and the principal are participating in a 3-year staff development with the South Carolina Reading Initiative (SCRI). SCRI teaches new strategies that help teach students better ways to improve reading and writing. Alma teachers and students are participating in a research-based practice called looping. Mr. Kelly Sisk was named the District Reading Teacher of the Year, while Ms. Monica Lerche was selected as Alma's Teacher of the Year.

We appreciate all of the hard work of our School Improvement Council and the Alma PTO. We are also very proud of our business partners. Hamrick Mills was selected for a South Carolina State Board of Education Business Award.

We invite you to visit Alma Elementary School, a place "where kids are special people."

Malinda Patterson, Principal

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	100.0	100.0	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	81.0	97.0	
Satisfied with home-school relations	76.2	100.0	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

1101005

Alma Elementary
213 Alma Street
Gaffney, SC 29340

Grades PK-5 Elementary School

Enrollment: 250 Students

Principal

Mrs. Malinda Patterson 864-489-4742

Superintendent

Dr. William B. James 864-902-3500

Board Chair

Mr. Greg B. Kirby 864-487-9058

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Average

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com